



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

TRIMBLE NAVIGATION LIMITED C/O WAGNER BLECHER
123 WESTRIDGE DRIVE
WATSONVILLE CA 95076

MAILED

JUL 13 2009

In re Application	:	OFFICE OF PETITIONS
Carey B. Fan et al.	:	
Application No. 09/696,446	:	DECISION ON APPLICATION
Filed: October 24, 2000	:	FOR PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT
Attorney Docket No. TRMB-2106	:	

This is in response to the REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT INDICATED IN NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. 1.705) filed May 8, 2009. Applicant requests that the determination of patent term adjustment be corrected from six hundred forty-eight (648) days to nine hundred fifty-two (952) days. Applicant requests this correction on the basis that the Office will take in excess of three years to issue this patent and in light of the recent court decision in *Wyeth v. Dudas*, No. 07-1492 (D.D.C. September 30, 2008).

As the instant application for patent term adjustment requests reconsideration of the patent term adjustment as it relates to the Office's failure to issue the patent within 3 years of the filing date, a decision is being **HELD IN ABEYANCE** after the actual patent date. Knowledge of the actual date the patent issues is required to calculate the amount, if any, of additional patent term patentee is entitled to for Office failure to issue the patent within 3 years. See § 1.703(b). This is true even in this instance where a request for continued examination (RCE) was filed.

Applicant is given TWO (2) MONTHS from the issue date of the patent to file a written request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment for Office failure to issue the patent within 3 years. A copy of this decision should accompany the request. Applicant may seek such consideration without payment of an additional fee. However, as to all other bases for seeking reconsideration of the patent term adjustment indicated in the patent, all requirements of § 1.705(d) must be met. Requests for reconsideration on other bases must be timely filed and must include payment of the required fee.

Rather than file the request for reconsideration of Patent Term Adjustment at the time of the mailing of the notice of allowance, applicant is advised that they may wait until the time of the issuance of the patent and file a request for reconsideration of the patent

term pursuant to 37 CFR 1.705(d). The USPTO notes that it does not calculate the amount of time earned pursuant to 37 CFR 1.702(b) until the time of the issuance of the patent and accordingly, the Office will consider any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment due to an error in the calculation of 37 CFR 1.702(b) to be timely if the request for reconsideration is filed within two months of the issuance of the patent.

The Office acknowledges submission of the \$200.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.18(e). No additional fees are required.

The application is being forwarded to the Office of Data Management for issuance of the patent. The patent term adjustment indicated on the patent (as shown on the Issue Notification mailed about three weeks prior to patent issuance) will include any additional adjustment accrued both for Office delay in issuing the patent more than four months after payment of the issue fee and satisfaction of all outstanding requirements, and for the Office taking in excess of three years to issue the patent (to the extent that the three-year period does not overlap with periods already accorded).

Telephone inquiries specific to this decision should be directed to Senior Petitions Attorney Patricia Faison-Ball at (571) 272-3212.



Kery A. Fries
Senior Legal Advisor
Office of Patent Legal Administration
Office of Deputy Commissioner
for Examination Policy